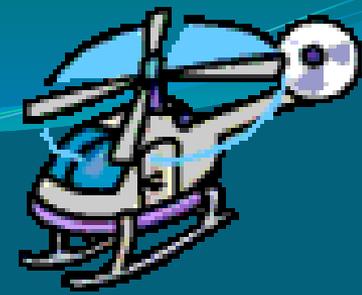


# MEDICAL DIRECTION OF INTERFACILITY TRANSPORTS



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# Interfacility Transport

Movement of a patient from one health care facility to another in a licensed ground or air ambulance.

# Transferring physician role

Has the responsibility of selecting the most appropriate means of transport  
(personnel and equipment)

# Transport service duty

Responsible for ensuring that their personnel can provide quality care within their scope of practice and are skilled in the use of the transport equipment.

# Online medical control responsibility

Should be established prior to the transport based on a mutual agreement between transferring physician, transport service medical director and the accepting physician.

# Function of transfer of patients

- Fundamental component of health care system
- Allows access to various levels of care for those who do not have direct access to such care
- Potentially prevents needless duplication of services and decreases cost in the system
- Facilitates an integrated health care system (trauma)

# Options for medical direction during a transport

- Transferring physician assumes medical direction
- Medical director of the transport service assumes medical direction
- Accepting physician assumes medical direction
- A shared pre-defined responsibility with a transfer of control en route

# EMTALA

- Patient care during transport until delivery to receiving facility is the responsibility of transferring physician unless otherwise specified

# EMTALA – Appropriate transfer

1. Provision of medical treatment within transferring facilities capability that minimizes risk to patient for transfer
2. Requires an accepting facility that has available space and qualified personnel to care for patient and accepts patient in transfer
3. Medical records must be sent with the patient
4. Transport by qualified personnel trained in life support measures to care for patient and potential complications during transfer

# Transferring physician/provider

Responsible for choosing the most appropriate means of transport with the level of care provided at sending facility to be continued while en route and that transport personnel be able to respond to anticipated complications during transport.

# Transferring physician/provider

- Responsible for the treatment orders to be followed during transport.
- This implies medical direction is also the responsibility of the transferring provider per EMTALA
- State statutes may be conflicting
- State guided patient care protocols
- State guided online medical control

# CAMTS

- Medical director of transporting agencies held to these standards
- Actively involved
- Administrative decisions
- Continuing education of services
- Orienting physicians providing online medical control

# Who will direct the transport??

1. Transferring physician
2. Medical director of transport agency
3. Pre designated online medical control
4. Accepting physician

**YOU DECIDE!!**